



Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #29 – April 11, 2003

SEMA/MEPA Spring Conference, April 20-23

As of April 10, 2003, 628 people will be attending the SEMA/MEPA Spring Conference, April 20-23. According to Conference Coordinator Cathy Zumwalt, there will be 54 exhibitors. Workshops will be one-hour and repeated three times to allow attendees to attend more workshops while at the conference. Here is a partial listing of workshops: Hazmat Response, Homeland Security, CERT, FBI Coordination with Local Officials, Critical Infrastructure – Utilities, and Patient Tagging During Response. Continuing Education Hours for Dispatchers will also be available. You are encouraged to attend the MERC meeting Wednesday afternoon.

For more information contact Cathy Zumwalt at (573) 526-9146 or fax in your registration to (573) 634-7966 before WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16. Registrations will also be accepted during the conference.

Missouri Has 28 Homeland Security Response Teams

Department of Justice equipment purchase funding '03 grants will allow Missouri to expand our 22 regional WMD/Hazmat Response Teams to 28 Homeland Security Response Teams. Each Region has at least one response team. All teams have personnel trained to technician and operations level Hazmat response. Twenty-two teams are enhanced response teams with state-of-the art equipment and decontamination units. The seven Forward Regional Response Teams (FRRT) can investigate and contain an incident but call in an enhanced team with more equipment capabilities.

The Teams are: **Area A:** Kansas City, Clay County/Northland Fire Chiefs Assn (NFCA), Lee's Summit, Sedalia/Pettis County, Tri-District Hazmat, and Warrensburg/Johnson County (FRRT team). **Area B:** Kirksville, Hannibal (FRRT). **Area C:** St. Charles/Warren County, St. Louis County, St. Louis City, Jefferson County and Franklin County. **Area D:** Springfield/Logan-Rogersville, Joplin, Branson/Taney County, and Nevada (FRRT). **Area E:** City of Jackson/SEMO Hazmat Team, City of Kennett, City of Poplar Bluff (FRRT).

Area F: Columbia/Boone County, Camden County Hazmat Team, Cole County Hazmat Team. **Area G:** West Plains (FRRT). **Area H:** Andrew County/Northwest MO Hazmat Team, Grundy/Livingston County (FRRT). And **Area I:** Rolla/Phelps County, City of Lebanon (FRRT).

Re-Organization At a Glance

SEMA has reorganized to better serve local emergency managers and their elected officials. The branches are Executive, Fiscal, Operations/Training/Exercise, Planning & Disaster Recovery, and Floodplain & Mitigation. With recent employee retirements, promotions and new hires, here is a brief recap of each branch and duties. Contact Information (email and telephone numbers) are listed on our web page in the SEMA Directory.

Jerry B. Uhlmann is the SEMA Director and oversees all SEMA Functions. **Barbara Bailie** is his Administrative Assistant.

EXECUTIVE Branch: SEMA Deputy Director **Buck Katt**; his Administrative Assistant is **Rhua Ridenhouer**; Public Information **Susie Stonner**; Information Technology Manager **Jeff Falter** with **Marilyn Carrender** and **Jim Bernskoetter**, GIS and Internet **Helen Stewart**; the Statewide Volunteer Coordinator **Dante Gliniecki**; Citizen Corps Grant Administrator **Debbie Rathert**; MERC Manager **Bob Dopp** with Administrative Assistants **Bettie Wingate**, **Pat Dulle** and **Jennifer Markwell**.

OPERATIONS Branch: Branch Chief **Jim Wakeman**; Deputy Ops Chief **Steve Sloan**; Assistant **Shirley Tarrants**; Training Officer **Jim Charrier** with Training Assistants **Susan Rhoades**, **Tina Brown** and CERT Grant Administrator **Alysia Beaudoin**; Exercise Officer **A.J. Lehman**, Terrorism Grants Manager **Tom Mohr** and Specialist **Don Koller**, Radiological Emergency Preparedness Planner **Ed Gray**, Asst. Planner **John Campbell** and REP Equipment Maintenance Supervisor **Jim “Jack” Kammerer**; Communications Officer **Richard Stump** and Communications Specialist **Cathy Zumwalt**.

FLOODPLAIN & MITIGATION Branch: Branch Chief **George Riedel**; Floodplain Section: Managers **Roger Connell** and **Dale Schmutzler**, Engineer **Scott Samuels**. Mitigation Section: State Hazard Mitigation Officer **Sheela Amin**; Specialists **Sheila Huddleston** and **Dave Lupardus**; Administrative Assistants **Pam Huhmann** and **Windy Taylor**.

PLANNING & DISASTER RECOVERY Branch: Branch Chief **Charles May**; Planning Section: Senior Planner **Brenda Heidbreder**; Area Coordinators: **Rick Jordan** (A), **Bob Bailey** (B), **Derek Lohner** (C), **Candace Adams** (D), **Mark Winkler** (E), **Tom LeComte** (F), **Terry Toler** (G and I), and **Steve Cheavens** (H). Disaster Recovery Section: Manager **Alan Prenger**, Recovery Specialists **Steve Besemer**, **Don Carter** and **Gayla Weber**; Administrative Assistants **Sue Barnhouse** and **Diana Terrell**.

FISCAL Branch: Branch Chief **Craig Rodick**; Accounting Section: **Karen Libbert**, **Ron Gerke**, **Jerry Rothganger**, **Rose Hodge**; Buyer **Brenda Gerlach**; Human Resources **Debbie Sherman**; Services **Mike Dorman**.

Congratulations New PDS Graduates!

Eleven Emergency Managers completed their Professional Development Series (PDS) certification in 2002. Congratulations to: Tanya Allen, William G. Harmon, William C. Reynolds, Susan Hoskins, Dan Wood, David Compton, Derek Lohner, Robert L. Easton, Ron Tost, James Watkins, Teresa Tost, Bobby Summerville, Jim Charrier, Elizabeth Gazey, William Hennigh, Kim Jarquio, Ina F. McCaine-Oberland, Warren Westrup, and Barbara Liston-Garcia

EMI Announces Changes to Professional Development Series

Emergency Management Institute (the training arm for FEMA and NFA) announced changes are underway to make the Professional Development Series (PDS) more accessible to wider audiences and to give more delivery options to trainers. The courses are being updated as Independent Study courses, and new administrative procedures are necessary.

THE COURSES: As of August 2002, *Effective Communication, IS242*, *Decision Making and Problem Solving, IS241*, and *Leadership and Influence IS240* have been available for students either as printed textbooks or online. As of the end of January 2003, *Developing Volunteer Resources* has been updated and is available in print and online under a new title, *Developing and Managing Volunteers, IS244*. The revision adds information on how to tap into and coordinate existing volunteer programs to meet emergency needs.

Exercise Design, IS139 has been put up on the Web and copies will be printed. The old *G120 Exercise Design* course has been superseded by this new *IS139*. (Note that *IS120 An Orientation to Community Disaster Exercises* is a different course, does not count for PDS, and is still in use.) *Principles of Emergency Management, IS230*, and *Emergency Planning, IS235* will be available soon.

WHAT IS NEW? The updated content is new, of course, but the option to take the courses as independent studies is also new. The other new feature is that there will be a common measure of evaluating achievement—a test for every course. After July 1, 2003, all PDS courses taken for a Certificate of Achievement from EMI/FEMA will require that each student take and pass a test to be scored by the FEMA Independent Study Program Office.

For a PDS Certificate of Completion after July 1, 2004, only courses for which a student has passed the tests will count toward fulfillment of PDS requirements. So July 1, 2003 to July 1, 2004 is a “grand fathered” period when courses taken before there were tests can still be used in fulfillment of PDS requirements.

HOW TO OBTAIN MATERIALS: For independent study versions of each course, a student may request a paper copy from: FEMA Independent Study Program, Emergency Management Institute, 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727

A student may also enroll online, access the course materials, and test online at: <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS>.

A View from DHS: School Emergency Planning

To help school leaders better prepare for emergencies, Education Secretary Rod Paige and Department of Homeland Secretary Tom Ridge unveiled a new section on the Department of Education's Web site designed to be a one-stop-shop for school officials.

Information about the \$30 Million grants for Education will be available through the US Department of Education's web page: www.ed.gov. Education Secretary Paige announced that \$30 million is available in FY 2003 to help school districts improve and strengthen emergency response and crisis management plans. Funds could be used to train school personnel, parents and students in crisis response; coordinate with local emergency responders including fire and police; purchase equipment; and coordinate with groups and organizations responsible for recovery issues. An additional \$30 million is included in the proposed FY 2004 budget.

Missouri SEMA, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Missouri Safe Schools Coalition offer Missouri schools the "Multi-Hazard Safety Program for Schools" training. Schools can receive copies of FEMA's award-winning FEMA for Kids, which provides one-on-one disaster preparedness and response information to children, their parents and their teachers.

Schools can do several things to enhance their security in a post-9/11 environment. Recommended actions for schools includes:

- Conducting an assessment of each school building. Identify those factors that put the building, students and staff at greater risk, such as proximity to rail tracks that regularly transport hazardous materials or facilities that produce highly toxic material, and develop a plan for reducing the risk. This can include plans to evacuate students away from these areas in times of crisis and to reposition propane tanks or other hazardous materials away from school buildings.
- Working with businesses and factories close to the school to ensure that the school's crisis plan is coordinated with their crisis plans.
- Ensuring a process is in place for controlling access and egress to the school. Require all persons who do not have authority to be in the school to sign in.
- Reviewing traffic patterns, and where possible, keep cars, buses, and trucks away from school buildings.
- Reviewing landscaping and ensuring buildings are not obscured by bushes or shrubs where contraband can be placed or persons can hide.
- Having site plans for each school facility readily available and ensuring they are shared with first responders and emergency preparedness agencies.
- Ensuring there are multiple evacuation routes. Your first or second evacuation site options may be blocked or unavailable at the time of the crisis.
- Having a plan for discharging students. Remember that during a crisis many parents may not be able to get to the school. Make sure every student has a secondary contact person and contact information readily available.